

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, MT, CH

SUBJECT: CHINESE FACTORIES

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS PEKING

REF: VALLETTA 1206

1. JOHN MIZZI, CHAIRMAN MALTA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, ON BEHALF GOM AND MR. LI YING, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR CHINESE EMBASSY, SIGNED JUNE 26 MINUTES OF TALKS ON SETTING UP DECORATIVE GLASS AND CHOCOLATE FACTORIES. MINUTES CONSTITUTE AGREED RESULTS THREE MONTHS STUDY BY TWO CHINESE TEAMS, ONE OF FIVE MEMBERS AND OTHER OF SIX, REGARDING TWO INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS WHICH ARE TO BE OWNED AND RUN BY GOM.

2. GLASS PROJECT WILL BE HOUSED IN A 25,500 SQ. FT. FACTORY AT MARSA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND INVOLVE ERECTION OF FIVE FURNACES OF VARIOUS SIZES WHICH WILL PRODUCE BETWEEN 200,000 AND 250,000 PIECES OF GLASS VASES, ASHTRAYS AND OTHER ORNAMENTAL WORKS ANNUALLY. NAME OF COMPANY TO BE DECORATIVE
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GLASS COMPANY LIMITED. NEW EMPLOYMENT ANTICIPATED BY GLASS PROJECT IS 110.

3. CHOCOLATE FACTORY TO BE HOUSED IN 25,000 SQ. FT. FACTORY AT BULEBEL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE. PRODUCTION CAPACITY BETWEEN 1 AND 1.2 TONS PER SHIFT. COMPANY TO BE CALLED MALTA CHOCOLATE LIMITED AND WILL MAKE PLAIN MILK AND PLAIN VANILLA CHOCOLATE BARS AS WELL AS POLISHED CHOCOLATE WITH AN ALMOND CORE. SEMI- AUTOMATIC PLANT EXPECTED EMPLOY AROUND 50 INDIVIDUALS. TWO PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED FROM " INTEREST FREE" LOAN OF 16.93 MILLION POUND STERLING FURNISHED BY PRC.

4. WITH INITIALING OF MINUTES FOR TWO FACTORIES
11 CHINESE SURVEY EXPERTS HAVE COMPLETED THEIR TASK IN MALTA AND ARE EXPECTED DEPART JUNE 29. IN MEANTIME, OTHER CHINESE CURRENTLY INVOLVED SETTING UP AND MANNING PRC PAVILION AT MALTA INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR DURING FIRST TWO WEEKS JULY. PRC PAVILION BEING STOCKED WITH FULL RANGE CONSUMER AND FOOD ITEMS, FROM CANNED FRUIT TO BICYCLES WHICH WILL BE SOLD AS WELL AS DISPLAYED TO PUBLIC ATTENDING FAIR.

5. COMMENT: AFTER MONTHS OF PUBLICITY, CHINESE PROJECTS EMPLOYING ONLY 160 PERSONS, CERTAINLY INCLUDING SUBSTANTIAL PERCENTAGE OF FEMALE LABOR, WILL MAKE BUT A MINOR DENT IN MALTA'S UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM. GETZ

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED PEKING.

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